

2004 Report of Accomplishments

Grays Harbor Conservation District



Natural Resource Improvements in 2004 - Summary

- Certified five Dairy Nutrient Management Plans and completed two DNMPs for new dairy operations in the GHCD.
- Partnered with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service to bring \$2.1 million into a Wetland Reserve Program special emphasis area in the Chehalis River basin.
- Completed four Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program projects covering 11,589 lineal feet of riparian buffer, planted with 17,295 trees at an average setback of 180 feet for 61.3 acres covered.
- Provided more than \$29,000 in dairy cost-share funding to five cooperators for installation of BMPs.



Mission of the Grays Harbor Conservation District

- To protect, preserve, and enhance the many natural resources in our District, to protect and preserve our agricultural land base and community, and to promote the implementation of environmental practices proven to meet these goals.

Water Quality Implementation

- Worked with NRCS and District Cluster Engineer to complete planning and review process for dairy and cranberry producers cost share approved practices.
- Completed design work for solid set sprinkler system for the Grayland cranberry bog. Project will be implemented after fall harvest.
- Completed design work for upgrading irrigation system and ditch cribbing and covers for North Beach cranberry producer. Project will be implemented after fall harvest.
- Completed design work for buried mainline for dairy producer. Construction has begun.
- Provided \$8,750.00 in dairy cost share funds from 04 Water Quality Implementation grant to 2 cooperators to install NRCS approved BMP code 358 (waste transfer)

Basic Funding

- This funding source is utilized to maintain basic District Operations not covered by other sources.

Professional Engineering

- Completed the plans and permit applications for stream stabilization/rechanneling on Wildcat Creek. Project implementation will begin when permits are received.
 - Completed design work for solid set sprinkler system (NRCS practice code 442) for Grayland cranberry producer, completed design work for upgrading irrigation system (NRCS practice code 442) and ditch cribbing and covering (NRCS practice code 554) for North Beach cranberry producer, and completed design work for buried mainline (NRCS practice codes 430DD and 358).
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Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

- Joined with the Lewis County Conservation District for a multi-District CREP program sharing one technician thereby strengthening both of our CREP programs and allowing for the continued services of an experienced, qualified CREP technician.
- Developed, reviewed, approved and implemented 4 new CREP projects for a total of 11,589 linear feet of riparian buffer, with 17,295 trees planted with an average setback of 180 ft. or 61.3 acres. \$6,649.00 in cost share funding was paid to cooperators.
- Continued to provide technical assistance for maintenance purposes to previously installed projects. \$1,849.60 in maintenance funding was paid to cooperators.

Dairy

- Two new Dairy Nutrient Management Plans were developed, reviewed, and approved
- Five Dairy Nutrient Management Plans were certified
- Conducted soil and water testing to illustrate that proper management of nutrients can result in zero impact to water quality. Our soil test results showed that leachate from nutrient applications was minimal at worst and nonexistent in most cases. Our water test results showed that under most conditions the water leaving our dairies was cleaner than the water that entered them.
- Entered into an Inter-District Agreement with Thurston Conservation District to subcontract for services of existing TCD Dairy Planner for GHCD Dairy Planning needs thereby strengthening both of our dairy programs and allowing limited funding to be stretched as far as is possible while still achieving our dairy goals.

Community Collaboration & Coordination

- Supervisor served on NRCS Olympic Peninsula Team Local Work Group and State Technical committee.
- Working with NRCS, Board co-chaired 2 informational meetings on forming of WRP Special Emphasis Area along the Chehalis River.
- WRP Special Emphasis Area along the Chehalis River was granting designating 2.1 million dollars to projects. 13 applications totaling more than 1100 acres were received and processed by NRCS.
- GHCD entered into Inter-District Agreements with Lewis and Thurston Conservation Districts: Lewis CCD on CREP grant; Lewis CCD on Fish Passage Barrier/Culvert Analysis Grant; Lewis CCD on Cluster District Engineering Grant; and Thurston CD for services of a Dairy Technician.
- GHCD continued its Inter-District Agreement with Mason CD for Fish Passage Barrier/Culvert Analysis Grant. GHCD continued to house Mason CD crew members conducting the survey.
- GHCD continued its involvement in the Chehalis Basin Conservation District Alliance 319 grant program



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